

REMARKS

Claims 1-11 are pending. Claims 5-10 have been withdrawn. By this Response, claim 1 is amended and claim 11 is added. Reconsideration and allowance based on the above amendments and following remarks are respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-3 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Shimamura, et al. (U.S. 5,721,586) and claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Shimamura in view of Zeper (U.S. 5,386,227). These rejections are respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 recites, *inter alia*, a prompter support member comprising a display; a mirror; a plurality of support members including a first support stage, and a second support stage, wherein the first support stage, second support stage, display and mirror can be positioned such that they overlap each other.

As recited in claim 1, the present invention allows the first and second support members that support the prompter and camera the ability to be positioned such that the support members and both the display device and mirror overlap each other. Fig. 5 provides an exemplary illustration of the features of claim 1.

In contrast, Shimamura teaches a television prompter (32) that includes support arm (16) which includes swing arm 16A and 16B that support the

prompter (32), a display unit (22) and a half-mirror attachment. In Shimamura, the swing arms 16A and 16B are slidable such that they can be positioned adjacent to each other. However, the swing arms cannot be positioned such that they overlap the display unit and the half-mirror attachment. Further, neither the display unit nor the half-mirror attachment is capable of being positioned to overlap each other, let alone, the swing arms. Thus, Shimamura does not teach a first and second support stage, a display device and a mirror that can be positioned such that they overlap each other, as claimed.

In view of the above, Shimamura fails to teach each of the claimed features as recited in independent claim 1. Thus, applicant respectfully submits that claim 1 is distinguishable over Shimamura. Likewise, dependent claims 2 and 3 are distinguishable over Shimamura for the above reasons.

Further, Zeper fails to make up for Shimamura's deficiencies. Zeper merely teaches a lightweight camera provided on a single support plate. Thus, in view of the above, claim 4 is distinguishable over the combination of Shimamura and Zeper.

Accordingly, based on the above, applicant respectfully submits reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections.

Conclusion

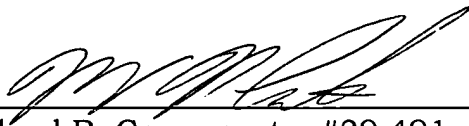
For at least these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that claims 1-4 and 11 are distinguishable over the cited art. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Chad J. Billings (Reg. No. 48,917) at the telephone number of the undersigned below, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

Appl. No. 09/671,449

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Attachment(s)